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Toy Welcomed Major General Thomas G. Cutler To Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting

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LANSING – Chairwoman Laura Toy, R-Livonia, today welcomed Major General Thomas G. Cutler, Adjutant General of the Michigan National Guard to the Senate Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs Committee.

"Major General Thomas Cutler's information on the deployment of Michigan troops was greatly appreciated by the members of the Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs committee today," Toy said. "In a time when Michigan families are being separated, as husbands and wives are called upon to defend our nation, it is critical to address how and where Michigan soldiers will serve the needs of the United States of America in these times of uncertainty."

Major General Cutler said more than 1,000 Michigan citizen soldiers have been called upon to serve the United State of America. In his testimony, he noted that many reservists know their service will be hard on their families, but are proud to be defending their country as promised to do when they signed up to serve in the Michigan National Guard.

Michigan employers are also supporting our troops, Major General Cutler said, by protecting the jobs of employees who have been called up to serve their country.

"Friday of last week I had the privilege to address our troops that were leaving their families," Toy said. "It was very moving to see that these men and women know we are behind them as they do their job for our country. We are also respectful that these citizens soldiers leave loved ones behind and they will need our financial and emotional support and understanding. Let us all support our troops and their families."

Major General Thomas G. Cutler was sworn in as the Adjutant General of the Michigan National Guard on January 1, 2003. He was appointed to his post on November 23, 2002. Prior to this assignment he was the commander of the 127th Wing, the host wing at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Note: A downloadable photograph of Senator Toy with Major General Thomas G. Cutler is available on the Senate Photowire, located at http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/